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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/509,537

05/16/2005

Je-Kwon Goo

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10/06/2008

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THUY-AI N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/06/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/509,537	Applicant(s) GOO ET AL.	
	Examiner THUY-AI N. NGUYEN	Art Unit 1796	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10- 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gu Seiken et al. (JP 2000-169879) and as evidenced by “Unabridged Chemical Dictionary”.

Considering Claim 10: Gu Seiken teaches a method for preparing soap containing salt which comprises:

- neutralizing a saturated or unsaturated fatty acid, obtained from palm oil, with caustic soda (sodium hydroxide) (¶0023, 31, 33), wherein the alkyl of the fatty acid has 7 to 21 carbon atoms and has the formula RCOO (¶0019).

- reacting the fatty acid salt with 3-chloro-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid (¶0020) having the same formula as claimed by the applicant (¶0037), wherein the process of preparing comprises the solvent including water (¶0039).

Gu Seiken teaches the soap comprising 2 to 35 percent by weight of monoglyceride sulfonate (salt) (¶0010).

With regard to the claimed lauric and myristic acid content, Gu Seiken teaches that the fatty acid is obtained from palm oil (¶0023). Palm oil, as shown by the “Unabridged Chemical Dictionary”, comprises 44-52 percent lauric acid and 13-19 percent myristic acid (p323).

Therefore, palm oil would comprise from 57 to 71 percent lauric and myristic acid, which overlaps the claimed range of over 60 wt%.

Considering Claim 11: Gu Seiken teaches the alkyl group of the fatty acid obtained independent or mixed fatty acid (§0019). Therefore, the fatty acid can be used alone or in combination.

Considering Claim 12: Gu Seiken teaches the method for preparing soap, wherein the fatty acid salt (beef tallow sodium) is about 76.65 percent (example 1), and chlorosulfonic acid is in an amount from 30 to 45 percent by weight (§0039). Therefore, the ratio of fatty acid salt to chlorosulfonic acid (Chemical formula 2 as in the claim) is about 2:1 or 1:0.5 within the range as claimed by the applicant.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 5/21/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's arguments that Gu Seiken teaches a soap having 1% of the weight of salts, while it is true that Example 1 of Gu Seiken does teach 1% of the weight of salts, those salts are not what are referred to in claim 1. As can clearly be seen from Table 1 of the instant application, salt is present at 0.7 to 3 percent by weight, outside or at the very bottom of the claimed range. The salts that Gu Seiken teaches correspond to "salt" in Table 1 of the instant application. On the other hand, the "salt" percentage that is claimed in claim 10 refers to sodium monoglyceride sulfonate, the reaction product of a fatty acid sodium salt with 3-chloro-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid sodium salt. This corresponds to palm oil monoglyceride from

Example 1 of Gu Seiken, which is present at 6% by weight, which is within the claimed range of “salt”.

In response to applicant’s arguments in regard to the weight percent of lauric and myristic acid, please see the new rejection as set forth above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NOAH FRANK whose telephone number is (571)270-3667. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on 571-272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Eashoo, Ph.D./
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796
1-Oct-08

Thuy- Ai N. Nguyen
9-22-08